

In Letter CCXXXV, Chesterfield advises his son always to be well dressed in good taste, in fitness with the time and occasion, in a pleasing manner. His clothes are to be fashioned from proper material, by the best tailors; his hair is to be well-groomed; his stockings neat; his shoes well buckled; his person always accurately clean; his nails well manicured.¹

Temperance was advocated most strongly, temperance in all things. Elyot said, "the temperate man would not show excess of joy at victory, or of sorrow at defeat, or of anger against enemies, or of desire for vengeance, or of greed for wealth or power; nor would he spend extravagantly upon his clothes and furniture, or overindulge any appetite even the appetite for food and drink."² Sir Humphrey Gilbert adopted the principle of temperance and wrote, "a Noble man thinke modestlye of him selfe, live temperatlye, and contientlye, behave hym selfe moderately and soberly in all things."³ Chesterfield wished Stanhope to adopt the motto Ne quid nimis as a constant reminder and principle of conduct. He says, "Ne quid nimis is a most excellent rule in every thing; but commonly the least observed, by people of your age, in any thing."⁴

Concerning vice, Casa writes, "...every kind of vice ought indeed, on its own account, and without any other cause, to be esteemed extremely odious; for vice is a thing so very shocking

1. Chesterfield's Letters to His Son, p 346 f, Letter CCXXXV.

2. Doctrine of English Gentleman, p 91.

3. op. cit., p 91.

4. Chesterfield's Letters to His Son, p 242, Letter CLXXXVIII.